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**Press Release**  
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## San Francisco Fleet Week

### Third Fleet ships ready for Fleet Week 2006

**SAN DIEGO --** Six San Diego-based Third Fleet Navy ships, one U.S. Coast Guard cutter and three Canadian Navy vessels are set to participate in San Francisco Fleet Week 2006, beginning Oct. 6.

Third Fleet Ships include the nuclear-powered aircraft carrier USS Nimitz (CVN 68), the amphibious assault ship USS Bonhomme Richard (LHD 6), the guided missile cruiser USS Princeton (CG 59) and the guided missile destroyers USS Chafee (DDG 90), USS Higgins (DDG 76) and USS John Paul Jones (DDG 53).

U.S. Coast Guard Cutter Steadfast (WMEC 623) and the Canadian Navy Kingston Class coastal defense vessels HMCS Brandon (MCDV 710), Saskatoon (MCDV 709) and Edmonton (MCDV 703) are also scheduled to join the 26th annual celebration.

Third Fleet ships are slated to arrive in San Francisco Bay the first week of October and will take part in the Parade of Ships from 11 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 7.

USS Nimitz (CVN 68) is the first ship in the Nimitz class of nuclear-powered aircraft carriers and the first ship in the Navy named after Fleet Admiral Chester W. Nimitz, Pacific Fleet Commander during World War II.

USS Nimitz reaches over 18 stories high from keel to the top of the mast

Its eight steam turbine generators each produce 8,000 kilowatts of electrical power, enough to serve a small city.

The USS Nimitz Food Services Department provides 18,000 – 20,000 meals a day and can stock at least 90 days of refrigerated and dry storage goods. Its two barber shops trim over 1,500 heads each week and Post Office processes more than one million pounds of mail each year

The Medical Department is manned by six doctors including a surgeon, who provide everything from surgery to hydro-therapy. The ship also features an 80 - bed hospital ward. The ship also has a fully equipped dental facility, staffed by five dentists

Four distilling units enable NIMITZ engineers to make more than 400,000 gallons of fresh water a day, for use by the propulsion plants, catapults and crew. The ship's eight steam turbine generators produce 8,000 kilowatts of electrical power, enough to serve a small city.

USS Bonhomme Richard (LHD 6) is the sixth ship in the WASP class and the last amphibious assault ship in the Navy commissioned in the 20th century.

She is the third ship to bear the name Bonhomme Richard after the pen name of Benjamin Franklin, the Ambassador to France, and author of Poor Richard's Almanac.

The ship's primary mission is to embark, deploy and land elements of a Marine landing force in amphibious assault operations by helicopter, landing craft, amphibious vehicle or any combination of these means.

USS Princeton (CG 59) is the 13th Ticonderoga class guided missile cruiser and the sixth ship in the Navy to bear the name Princeton for the Revolutionary War victories over the British by George Washington in and around the town of Princeton, New Jersey.

Princeton's primary mission is to operate with aircraft carrier battle groups or as part of surface action groups in extreme threat environments well into the 21st century. The purpose of the ship is to detect, classify, track and engage potential targets simultaneously in the air, on the surface, and under the sea.

The mission of the Arleigh Burke Class Aegis Destroyers USS Chafee (DDG 90), USS Higgins (DDG76) and USS John Paul Jones (DDG 53) is to conduct prompt, sustained combat operations at sea in support of national policy.

Chafee is the 12th Flight IIA Arleigh Burke class guided missile destroyer and the first ship in the Navy to bear the name.

She is named after Senator John Hubbard Chafee of Providence Rhode Island.

Higgins is the 26th ship in the Arleigh Burke Guided Missile Destroyer Class and is named in honor of Colonel William R. Higgins, United States Marine Corps.

John Paul Jones is the third ship in the Arleigh Burke class of guided missile destroyers and was the first AEGIS destroyer to join the Pacific Fleet.

She is named in honor of the Father of the American Navy, Commodore John Paul Jones.

Ship tours will be available to the public during Fleet Week 2006. For a complete schedule and information on other Fleet Week events visit <http://fleetweek.us/fleetweek>.

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**The U.S. Navy will establish a Command Information Bureau during Fleet Week. Phone numbers and other details will be made available prior to Fleet Week.**